

RESPONSE AND ARGUMENTS

There are no amendments to the specification.

Amendments have been made to independent claim 1 and independent Claim 9 to more particularly point and distinctly claim what Applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. Claims 12-22 stand withdrawn from consideration as being subject to a restriction requirement. Applicant acknowledges the election of Claims 1-11 and Applicant does not traverse the restriction requirement. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter of non-elected Claims 12-22.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for containing an improper Markush group. Applicant has amended Claim 1 and Claim 9 to remove the use of a Markush group and Applicant submits that this rejection is now moot. The Examiner is requested to reconsider the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 and to withdraw this rejection.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Rowe '907.

Rowe is directed to the IGT EZ pay ticket system which prints

ticket vouchers when the player cashes out of a gaming machine. The ticket vouchers can be redeemed at a cashier station or may be used to input credits on a gaming machine. The disclosure of this Rowe patent discusses allowing the ticket vouchers to be used at multiple properties.

The Rowe patent also discloses that a player may receive a bar-coded ticket as part of a promotion while the player is playing the gaming machine. This bar-coded ticket can be redeemed for game play credit or for merchandise. There is also a disclosure that the serial number on the bar-coded ticket can be used in a lottery game in which lottery numbers are randomly selected and matched to the serial number on the bar-coded ticket.

There is no disclosure in the Rowe patent that the player can be awarded a keno ticket or a lottery ticket "whenever the player achieves a predetermined arrangement of symbols during the play of the conventional game of chance" [Claim 1] or "at a randomly determined occurrence during the play of the conventional game of chance" [Claim 9].

Unlike the disclosure of the Rowe patent, the method of Applicant's invention does not merely award the player merchandise. The method awards the player an entry into a separate game of chance and allows the player the possibility to

receive additional awards should that entry turn out to be a winning entry. The player could use the keno ticket or the lottery ticket at any time and the player could select the numbers the player wishes to play on the keno ticket or in the lottery.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 9-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Kelly '426.

The patent to Kelly discloses a method in which a player redeems any winning occurrences in an amusement game or a game of chance in the form of "universal tickets" or "specific prize tickets". The universal tickets merely display the amount of "points" or "credits" that the player has achieved and then the universal tickets are used at a redemption booth for prizes. A specific prize ticket has displayed thereon the specific prize that the player has won.

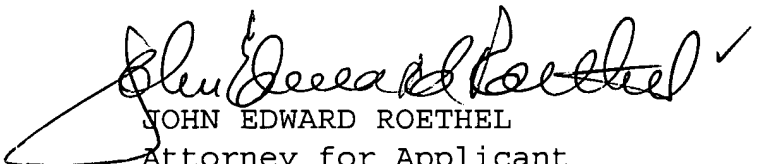
Unlike the disclosure of the Kelly patent, the method of Applicant's invention does not merely award the player merchandise. The method awards the player an entry into a separate game of chance and allows the player the possibility to receive additional awards should that entry turn out to be a winning entry. The player could use the keno ticket or the lottery ticket at any time and the player could select the numbers the player wishes to play on the keno ticket or in the lottery.

Claims 3 and 5-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Kelly '426.

Claims 3 and 5-8 depend from Claim 1, as amended, and are submitted to be allowable for the same reasons that Claim 1, as amended, is allowable.

Applicants submit that all of the claims pending in this application, Claims 1-11, are allowable over the prior art of record and the Examiner is requested to reconsider his rejections of Claims 1-11 and to find that these claims are now allowable. If the Examiner has further questions regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to call undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,


JOHN EDWARD ROETHEL
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 28,372

2290 South Jones Blvd., #100
Las Vegas, Nevada 89146
Phone: (702) 364-1190